WHAT?! MOM'S OPERATION WENT WELL?!

BUT I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THAT SHE WAS *HAVING* AN OPERATION!!

RIGHT, SORRY ABOUT THAT.

SHE TOLD ME NOT TO TELL YOU.

IT ONLY HAD A 50 PERCENT SUCCESS RATE, SO I GUESS SHE DIDN'T WANT TO WORRY YOU TOO MUCH.

OH REALLY?!

SHE STILL NEEDS TO CONTINUE HER CHEMO-THERAPY FOR A LITTLE LONGER.

BUT IT SEEMS LIKE SHE'LL BE FINE NOW.

YOUR MOM'S LIFE HAS BEEN SAVED.

SHE CAN BE DISCHARGED FROM THE HOSPITAL AS EARLY AS NEXT WEEK.

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

#120 Mother and Daughter, Take Two

I WANT TO...

...INTRODUCE HAYATO-KUN TO MY PARENTS TOO!!

NO, LET'S NOT.

SO, LET'S GET STARTED!

...IS THE NAME OF OUR NEW SPECIAL FEATURE!!

...IS THAT REALLY WHAT YOU ALL THINK OF ME?

YOU JUST LAZE AROUND AND LET AKANE-CHAN DO ALL THE BARISTA WORK, DON'T YOU?!

IT'S FINE, ISN'T IT?! YOU WON'T BE WORKING FOR A WHILE ANYWAY!

WHY DO I HAVE TO GO?

HURRY UP AND GET READY, HAYATO-KUN!

MY MOM'S OPERATION WENT WELL, SO I'M GONNA GO AND VISIT HER!

I WONDER IF WE SHOULD'VE BROUGHT SOMETHING A LITTLE MORE FANCY?

WE DIDN'T REALLY HAVE TO BRING ANYTHING.

TURNING UP EMPTY-HANDED TO VISIT SOMEONE IN THE HOSPITAL IS UNTHINKABLE.

YOU'RE GOOD ABOUT THINGS LIKE THIS.

BUT IF THAT'S THE CASE, WOULDN'T A CUTE POTTED PLANT HAVE BEEN BETTER?

DON'T YOU KNOW THAT YOU SHOULD NEVER GIVE A POTTED PLANT TO SOMEONE IN HOSPITAL?

WH...WHY NOT?!

GOOGLE IT.*

*In Japan, it is considered unlucky to gift potted plants to people in hospital, as there is a superstition that it will make sickness "take root" in the person, like the plant is rooted in the pot.

MORE IMPORTANTLY... DID YOU ACTUALLY TELL THEM THAT WE WERE COMING TO VISIT TODAY?

HUH?

IT'LL BE FINE, DAD'S ALWAYS HERE AROUND THIS TIME OF DAY.

WHA? YOU MEAN TO SAY THAT YOU DIDN'T TELL THEM...?

203

I SAID IT'S FINE!

YOU'RE ONLY HERE TO MEET MY PARENTS, YOU KNOW?

ガラッ RATTLE

HEY, AT LEAST KNOCK FIRST...!

SEE? I TOLD YOU.
WHAT ...?

YEAH... SORRY ...
WELL, YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME THAT YOU WERE COMING!!
UH... I CAME TO VISIT MOM...
I WASN'T EXPECTING YOU TO COME HERE ALL OF A SUDDEN!!
WH...WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, RIHO?!

UH-HUH...

I KNOW.

UH...THIS IS... IT'S JUST THAT YOUR MOM IS STILL TIRED FROM HER OPERATION, SO I THOUGHT I'D HELP MAKE SURE SHE ATE SOMETHING!!

OH! SO YOU CAME ALONG TOO, HAYATO-KUN?!

UH...

LONG TIME NO SEE.

O...OH, THANK YOU FOR GOING TO SO MUCH TROUBLE.

BUT WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR ARM?

I HEARD THAT THE OPERATION WENT WELL...

...SO I BROUGHT THESE TO CELEBRATE.

IF YOU SPREAD ANY MORE WEIRD RUMORS ABOUT ME, I'LL KICK YOUR ASS SO HARD YOU CAN'T EVEN SIT DOWN, GOT IT?!

AH... I WAS JUST A LITTLE BIT CARELESS, THAT'S ALL...

IT'S NOTHING SERIOUS, SO I SHOULD HEAL UP IN NO TIME.

I SEE... THAT'S GOOD, THEN.

ARE YOU THE MANAGER OF THE SHOP WHERE RIHO WORKS?

AH... YES.

...

REMEMBER, BEFORE RIHO STARTED ACTING...

WE WENT TO THAT CAFÉ AT MIURA BEACH, JUST THE THREE OF US?

THIS YOUNG MAN IS THE GRANDSON OF THAT CAFÉ'S OWNER.

IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU.

MY NAME IS HAYATO KASUKABE. I'M THE MANAGER OF CAFÉ TERRACE FAMILIA.

...

YES.

THERE WAS... A PLACE LIKE THAT THERE, WASN'T THERE?

...

...

GLANCE

!!

THIS IS A WIG.

WHAT OF IT?

OH...?

I THOUGHT YOU WERE UNDERGOING CHEMO-THERAPY?

WELL ANYWAY, IF YOU'RE ALL BETTER, KINDLY HURRY UP AND DISCHARGE YOURSELF.

HEY, STOP THAT, BOTH OF YOU.

DON'T MAKE A SCENE IN FRONT OF HAYATO-KUN!

JUST HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN ON STAYING IN THIS EXPENSIVE-LOOKING PRIVATE ROOM?

HOW MUCH DO YOU EXPECT DAD TO SPEND ON YOU?

AH...

ABOUT THAT...

BUT, WELL... IF YOU WENT BACK TO THAT FILTHY APARTMENT OF YOURS...

...YOU'D PROBABLY JUST GET SICK AGAIN.

WHAT?

...

YOUR MOM AND I...ARE THINKING OF GETTING BACK TOGETHER.

HOW SHOULD I PUT IT...? WHILE I WAS HERE EVERY DAY NURSING HER BACK TO HEALTH...

AND WELL... YOUR MOM SAID SHE'D BE FINE WITH IT, TOO.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO EXPLAIN EVERYTHING TO HER.

SO ONCE SHE'S DISCHARGED, I PLAN TO HAVE HER COME AND LIVE WITH ME.

I SEE.

OH...

WH...WHAT DO YOU THINK...? ABOUT THE THREE OF US BECOMING A FAMILY AGAIN...

THAT IS, ONLY IF YOU'RE OKAY WITH IT, OF COURSE.

WELL...

I'LL JUST DO WHAT I WANT...

...

I DON'T REALLY CARE EITHER WAY...

IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT...

UM...

I CAN'T DO IT!

I CAN'T KEEP UP THIS ACT ANYMORE!

CAN YOU REALLY BECOME A GOOD ACTRESS LIKE THAT?

HOW PITIFUL.

RIHO...

A!! DASH !!

UWA-AAAH!!

RIHO!!

RIHO?!

I'M SO GLAD!!

CLING

AH... SORRY.

I JUST...

SORRY.

GRRRR ゴゴゴ...

...

HE HE...

HE HE HE...

...!

...

A HA HA HA.

I SEE. YOU REALLY DO LOOK JUST LIKE MASA-HIRO-SAN.

...AH!

IT'S YOU, ISN'T IT?

THE YOUNG MAN WHO WAS FOOLHARDY ENOUGH TO PICK A FIGHT WITH SHIGEHISA FUWA.